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Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Kazuyoshi Oshima and Katsuya Imai
APPLN. NO: 09/997,703 CONFIRMATION NO.: 4302
FILED: 30 November 2001 ART UNIT: 3626
TITLE: HINGE ASSEMBLY

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RECEIVED

JUL 24 2002

GROUP 3600

Dear Sir:

The original Information Disclosure Statement misidentified the submitted Japanese reference and included an unrelated English language abstract. A replacement form PTO/SB-08A properly identifying the submitted Japanese reference is enclosed. An explanation of the relevance of the submitted Japanese reference is found in the Background of Invention section of the specification.

The error occurred because of an unrecognized overlap between the numbers assigned to Japanese utility model publications and the numbers assigned to Japanese patent applications and publications. The erroneously submitted English language abstract has a patent application number in common with the publication number of the submitted Japanese Utility Model Publication 07-047579. The misidentified number is the publication number of the misassociated patent application. The Japanese Patent Office does not make available English language abstracts of Japanese utility model publications.

For any questions on this art or the application, the Examiner is invited to call applicants' representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: JUL 16 2002

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on: 16 July 2002

Signature:
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